

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 04368 071803Z
ACTION EUR-12

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P 071740Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8574
AMCONSUL WINNIPEG POUCH

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SENV, CA, US
SUBJECT: ENERGY FACILITY INVENTORY

REF: OTTAWA 3455

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER RECEIVED BY EMBASSY
FROM JOHN SHARPE, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, WITH REGARD TO
ENERGY FACILITIES INVENTORY:

QUOTE: FURTHER TO MY LETTER OF JUNE 14, TO WHICH YOU
REPLIED JULY 11, WE HAVE NOW RECEIVED INFORMATION
FROM THE GOVERNMENTS OF MANITOBA AND SASKATCHEWAN
REGARDING ENERGY FACILITIES IN THESE PROVINCES WHICH
I AM PLEASED TO PASS ON TO YOU.

"AS I SUGGESTED EARLIER, IT DOES NOT APPEAR THAT THERE
ARE ANY FACILITIES IN THESE PROVINCES WITH POTENTIAL
FOR SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE TRANSBOUNDARY IMPACT.
SASKATCHEWAN DEPENDS PRIMARILY ON HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER
FROM NORTHERN RIVERS, AND AS YOU MAY BE AWARE THE
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PROJECTS BEING CONSIDERED AT PRESENT TO MEET THE
PROVINCE'S FUTURE POWER NEEDS ARE A SECOND 300-MEGAWATT
UNIT AT THE POPLAR RIVER SITE (ON WHICH EXTENSIVE
INFORMATION HAS BEEN EXCHANGED) AND TWO NORTHERN HYDRO-
ELECTRIC PROJECTS. I ATTACH FOR YOUR INFORMATION,
SHOULD IT PROVE USEFUL, A RECENT PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
PUBLICATION ON 'ENERGY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN SASKATCHE-

WAN'.

"AS FAR AS MANITOBA IS CONCERNED, AGAIN, THE VAST PROPORTION OF THE PROVINCE'S POWER IS HYDRAULICALLY GENERATED AT PLANTS ON NORTHERN OR EASTERN RIVERS, AND AS I MENTIONED IN MY INTERIM REPLY, MANITOBA RIVERS IN ANY CASE GENERALLY FLOW FROM THE UNITED STATES INTO CANADA. THE ONLY THERMAL GENERATING STATIONS OF ANY IMPORTANCE ARE COMPARATIVELY SMALL (50-200 MEGAWATT) UNITS AT BRANDON, SELKIRK AND WINNIPEG, SOME 60-100 MILES FROM THE BORDER. THE PROVINCE IS NOT CURRENTLY CONTEMPLATING THE CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL COAL-FIRED ENERGY FACILITIES; RATHER, IT IS LOOKING TO FURTHER HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECTS IN THE SHORT TO MEDIUM TERM, AND CONSIDERING THE POSSIBILITY OF NUCLEAR POWER IN THE LONG TERM, WITH CONSTRUCTION NOT TO BEGIN MUCH BEFORE THE END OF THE CENTURY IF AT ALL. A MAP AND SUMMARY OF MANITOBA ENERGY FACILITIES AND A BROCHURE ON PROPOSED HYDRO-ELECTRIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE NELSON RIVER ARE ATTACHED.

"IN THE PREPARATION OF YOUR SURVEY YOU MAY FIND GENERALLY USEFUL THE ATTACHED PUBLICATION OF STATISTICS CANADA, WHICH LISTS FOR THE MOST RECENT YEAR ON WHICH DATA IS AVAILABLE (1976) ALL THE ELECTRICAL ENERGY PRODUCTION FACILITIES IN CANADA.

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"FINALLY, I WOULD NOTE THE INTEREST WHICH WE HAVE IN OBTAINING SIMILAR INFORMATION ON DEVELOPMENTS ON THE U.S. SIDE OF THE BORDER AND THE MUTUAL BENEFITS WE PERCEIVE IN PLACING THE SORT OF DATA YOU HAVE REQUESTED IN THE CONTEXT OF A TWO WAY FLOW OF INFORMATION ON TRANSBOUNDARY ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS, AS PART OF AN IMPROVED SYSTEM OF ADVANCE NOTIFICATION AND CONSULTATION. WE WOULD OF COURSE ALSO BE PLEASED TO DISCUSS THE RESULTS OF YOUR SURVEY AND TO RESPOND TO ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE IF YOU BELIEVE THIS WOULD BE HELPFUL. END QUOTE.

2. ENCLOSURES BEING POUCHED EUR/CAN.
ENDERS

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